

the President's support, I am confident that our Senate colleagues will act and move this bipartisan legislation further without undue delay.

Our students need it, our businesses need it, and our economy needs it right now.

#### FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for more than 50 years, we have observed February as American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the Nation's number one killer. During this month, we reaffirm our commitment to combating heart disease and educating all people about the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, before I came to Congress, I worked for nearly 30 years as a therapist rehab manager and licensed nursing home administrator. I understand the unique challenges facing individuals who have suffered a stroke or other life-changing injuries. Often, it is a long road to recovery. But an active lifestyle can help lower blood pressure, boost levels of good cholesterol, improve blood flow, and more.

Cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and stroke, remains the leading cause of death globally with more than 17.9 million deaths each year. But by making healthy choices—including a balanced diet and regular exercise—individuals can lower their risk for cardiovascular disease by as much as 80 percent.

I hope that Heart Month 2018 inspires more Americans to take control of their cardiovascular health and begin a healthy lifestyle journey.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF RAY BAUM

(Ms. ESHOO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a great man, Ray Baum.

Ray Baum was the staff director of the Energy and Commerce Committee. He came to Washington, D.C., to take on the senior policy role at the committee with the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Ray was a gentleman who was scholarly in terms of his understanding of the issues. He served in the Oregon State House of Representatives and as chairman on the Public Utilities Commission in the State of Oregon. His deep and broad knowledge is something that we all benefited from. I think the House and our country has lost a true patriot.

Ray was a man of great faith. He had two great loves in his life: Kristine, his

wife; their 6 children and 10 grandchildren. He was only 62 years old. He also loved public service and his country. He gave great service to his country.

I feel very blessed to have served with him at the committee and to have formed a friendship that will last with me all the days of my life.

God bless you, Ray. Thank you for the example and the role model that you have been to so many of us. May you rest in peace. We will always remember you with love, respect, and always with affection.

#### PHOENIX-MESA GATEWAY AIRPORT

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I recognize the incredible expansion of Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport.

After originally serving as an Air Force base for over 50 years, and closed due to the BRAC process, Gateway reopened in 1994 and now provides commercial airline service to more than 35 destinations. This airport is a significant economic asset to Arizona's economy, contributing \$1.3 billion every year.

Each month, Gateway sets new records. Last year, the airport saw a 9 percent increase in passenger traffic, making 2017 the second busiest year in the airport's history. I fully expect Gateway to shatter expectations in 2018.

The construction of SkyBridge Arizona will help facilitate trade between the United States and Mexico. We anticipate this project will create thousands of jobs and unleash millions of dollars for our economy.

I thank the board of directors, staff, employees, and East Valley residents who are committed to Gateway Airport's success. Gateway Airport would not be the pride of the East Valley without their dedication.

#### WE NEED REAL SOLUTIONS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the bad deals President Trump continues to push onto the American people.

As the administration continues to celebrate rewarding the top 1 percent with its bonanza, his administration is looking to slash programs like Social Security, Great Lakes water restoration, heating assistance for the elderly, and food for hungry people, just to name a few. The President's budget is as unrealistic as it is cruel. But Congress holds the power of the purse, and we intend to employ it.

When you think about it, President Trump's hollow \$1.5 trillion infrastruc-

ture plan actually only includes \$200 billion in Federal investment and expects the States to come up with five times that much. I suppose some would call that a Ponzi scheme.

His plan cedes Federal leadership and passes the buck to struggling State and local governments. Maybe some of my colleagues represent places that can afford all that. We certainly can't in Ohio.

I can't figure out why the President, who claims to be a builder himself, shortchanges his real chance to invest in America. Whether it is the deficit-raising budget or his flawed infrastructure deal, we know the American people need real solutions, not more hollow, false promises.

#### HONORING FLORIDA'S THIRD DISTRICT OLYMPIANS

(Mr. YOHO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, on February 9, the Winter Olympics began in South Korea.

As we celebrate the world coming together to achieve the very best in sports, I am extremely proud and excited to announce that Florida's Third District has three young speed skaters, Brittany Bowe, Erin Jackson, and Joey Mantia, who are competing in the Olympics.

Brittany, Erin, and Joey are from the town of Ocala, a city in my district with no ice rink. Yet, under the tutelage of Renee Hildebrand, these athletes have perfected their skills through regular training on roller blades. In fact, Erin had only spent 4 months total training on ice before earning her spot, making her position as the first African-American woman to qualify for the U.S. long track team even more remarkable.

Brittany, Erin, and Joey, all of Florida's Third District is rooting for you, and I know you will make our community and the Nation proud.

Good luck, and go Team USA.

#### CONGRATULATING KELECHI IBEZIM ON BECOMING AN EAGLE SCOUT

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelechi Ibezim, a high school senior from Glen Ridge, New Jersey, for becoming the first African-American Eagle Scout in Troop 55 of the Northern New Jersey Boy Scouts Council.

This young man is a resident of my district. Along with others in his troop, Kelechi led the effort to build an outdoor classroom at the Montclair Child Development Center. The center serves underprivileged children and focuses on teaching them social skills.

Kelechi has spent time painting schools, volunteering for nonprofits, and serving as treasurer of the youth branch of the Montclair NAACP. He plans to pursue a career in business or law once he graduates from college.

Mr. Speaker, Kelechi is just one of the many examples of young people in my district making Black history every day. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kelechi on receiving his Eagle Scout ranking.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. JAMES E. CARTER

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Dr. James E. Carter from my hometown of Tompkinsville, Kentucky, who passed away on February 12, 2018.

For over 50 years, Dr. Jimmy served generations of families in Monroe County as their physician, earning the title of Doctor of the Year by the American Academy of Family Physicians, as well as being named one of America's Top Family Doctors.

Throughout his years of service to his community, he was not only a beloved doctor, but was widely respected for being the leader of one of Kentucky's greatest political families: the Monroe County Carter family.

Dr. Jimmy's father, Abe, also held countless political offices. His uncle, Tim Lee, was a U.S. Congressman. His grandfather, James Carter, and his uncle, James, Jr., held the same circuit judgeship for nearly a century. Dr. Jimmy served on the Monroe County Board of Education and as Monroe County GOP Chair for most of my life.

Although Monroe County has lost one of our greatest public servants, I join with the entire community in celebrating his accomplishments and reflecting on his meaningful, compassionate presence in our life.

May God continue to bless his children, Jim, Tom, Cindy, and Mary Catherine, through whom his legacy lives on.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF RAY BAUM

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I come to pay tribute to the life of Ray Baum, the Republican staff director of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ray passed away on Friday after a courageous fight against cancer.

I will always remember Ray as an optimist. During our ongoing committee negotiations on an autonomous vehicles bill, Ray was always pushing us, looking for a solution that both Democrats and Republicans could support. He was always optimistic about our

prospects. Thanks to his prodding, we were able to pass a bipartisan bill out of the committee.

Ray was also extremely committed to being a public servant. When we marked up the Republican's ACA repeal bill, the markup went on in committee all night. Ray was sick at that time, but he refused to leave the markup. Finally, Chairman WALDEN, his staff, and mine convinced Ray to go home. But that did not stop him from watching the lively debate all night long on C-SPAN from home. In fact, my staff was still getting emails throughout the night.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Ray's family, Mr. Speaker, the staff of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and everyone else who knew Ray. He is going to be sorely missed.

#### WELCOME HOME, ROPER'S COUNTRY STORE AND CAFE

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to work for the Texans in a small town on the Brazos River, in Simonton, Texas.

There is an icon in Simonton that is loved by all in Fort Bend County. It is called Roper's Country Store and Cafe.

Roper's fought Mother Nature twice: the Brazos River dropped by uninvited in 2016, and again with Hurricane Harvey in August of last year.

At 6 a.m., exactly 1 week ago, Roper's beat Mother Nature. As you can see in this photograph, the owner, Lauren Gillespie, is watching Maria Silva welcome Anne, Ramona, and Laura home to Roper's.

I dropped by last Saturday and had a homemade breakfast with Simonton Mayor Louis Boudreaux. Maria was still smiling when I went there Saturday, as I filled up. Her shirt says: Texas Strong.

What that really says is: Simonton Strong, Roper's Strong.

Welcome home, Roper's.

#### HONORING PASTOR B.R. DANIELS

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor B.R. Daniels as he celebrates 45 years of service at Beth Eden Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 18.

From an early age, it was his love for the Word of God that led him to pursue a degree in religious studies at the Southern Bible Institute in Dallas. In addition, Pastor Daniels graduated with a master's degree and a Ph.D. in Christian education from Aspen Theological Seminary in Denver, Colorado.

Installed as the pastor of Beth Eden in 1972, his leadership has helped raise the church's profile and membership to nearly 1,000 members. It is due to Pas-

tor Daniels' dynamic leadership that a \$3.2 million building program was completed and celebrated in 2016.

A pillar of the community, Pastor Daniels continues to be an active member of the community by leading the region as moderator of the Northwestern District Baptist Association while also holding various civic leadership positions around the city of Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate his 45th pastoral anniversary and his years of spiritual leadership to our community.

#### LOS ZETAS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, I went to the Texas-Mexico border near Laredo.

On this, my 20th border trip, I spent time along the river with the Border Patrol. Los Zetas Mexican drug cartel controls a sophisticated smuggling operation of people and drugs. They have scouts on rooftops on both sides of the border, using cell phones and high-tech equipment to look for the Border Patrol.

Everyone pays to be smuggled across the Rio Grande. The cost is \$500 to \$800 for a Mexican; \$3,000 to \$5,000 for a Central American; and \$15,000 to \$30,000 for Chinese or countries of special interest, like Bangladesh. Everybody pays.

This organized crime gang uses stash houses on both sides of the border to conceal border crossers or drugs. When the coast is clear, Los Zetas moves people or drugs further into Texas, and then throughout the country. This is a very sophisticated criminal network.

Mr. Speaker, the outlaw Los Zetas cartel makes millions of dollars on our unsecured border. Enough with the rhetoric. Secure America first.

And that is just the way it is.

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#### BREAKING DOWN THE PRESIDENT'S INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BANKS of Indiana). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I was trying to add up the number of times that we have been here on floor over the last decade to talk about infrastructure. I suspect it is maybe 20 or 30 times that we have talked about it, and this last weekend, guess what happened on Monday. The President decides to talk about infrastructure. So here we are. On Tuesday, we are going to pick up the issue of infrastructure.

Let me just take a quick tour. Since they don't allow movies or slides here on the floor, we are going to run through these fast.